



OPEN PLOUGHING MATCH at

Sutton Estates

Radley Bottom, RG17 0UL

What Three Words Location:///polar.starring.yarn

**By kind permission of
Sir Richard Sutton Ltd**

**Saturday 18th October 2025
Ploughing will begin at 9 a.m.**

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

*Newbury and District Agricultural Society (NADAS)
Newbury Showground, Priors Court, Hermitage,
Thatcham RG18 9QZ*

Tel: 01635 247111

Email: nadas@nadas.co.uk

**Website: www.newburyshowground.co.uk
Link to entries on Showing Scene**

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES MONDAY 6TH OCTOBER

ALL CLASSES WILL BE PLOUGHED ON STUBBLE

HORSE CLASSES

Class 1: General Purpose – Horse Drawn

Class 2: Novice – Horse drawn (must not have won a prize at a recognised competition)

TRACTOR CLASSES

Class 3: Vintage - trailed.

Class 4: Vintage - mounted.

Class 5: Conventional ploughs. Mounted or Semi mounted ploughs.

Class 6: No Class

Class 7: Reversible Ploughs (National Rules)

Class 8: Novice ploughman – not to have won more than one match previously.

Class 9: Match ploughs. CONVENTIONAL PLOUGHING - WORLD STYLE (2 or more furrow ploughs)

For any make of semi-digger conventional plough. Minimum depth of furrow - 20 cm (except at opening and finish). Skimmers must be used. The winner of this class can go forward to the National Championship.

Class 10: Entry Competition for beginners (Age 13 – 20). Competitors must have experience of handling a tractor, but do not need to have ploughed before. Tractor and plough will be provided for this competition.

*** YFC members may enter any appropriate open class. Prizes will be awarded accordingly.**

*** N.B. Competitors must arrive not less than 30 minutes before the start of their class.**

ENTRY FEE: £10 (INCLUDING VAT)

PRIZE MONEY: 1st £20; 2nd £15; 3rd £10 (Prize cards to fourth place).

START TIME: 09:00 hrs.

FINISHING TIME: Tractors: 13:00 hrs.

Horses: 14:00 hrs.

PRIZE GIVING: 14:00 – 15:00 hrs.

Field Layout

- 1) Tramlines: Plots will be ploughed at 90 degrees across tramlines where possible.
- 2) Plot sizes applicable to Vintage
Length - Max 100 metres; Min 60 metres.
Width - Max 16 metres; Min 12 metres.
- 3) Headland width will be a minimum of 15 metres

IMPORTANT NOTICE

All competitors are responsible for the safe working of their machinery. Appropriate insurance must be held by every competitor which must include Third Party Liability Insurance.

RULES FOR PLOUGHING

1. PLOUGHS

- a) Tractor ploughs to be fitted with skimmers.
- b) Tailpieces are allowed. In reversible and conventional ploughing - the maximum size to be 26cm long and 22cm wide. The end of tailpiece to be no more than 32cm from the end of the mouldboard.
- c) Plough bodies can be raised or lowered.
- d) All plough bodies must be used when ploughing the finish.
- e) Extraneous attachments that manipulate the furrows or scratches are not allowed.
- f) In vintage hydraulic and classic ploughing, only one plough wheel allowed.

2. TIME ALLOWED

- a) Tractor ploughing - 20 minutes for opening. Penalty for failure to finish opening on time 2 points per minute or part minute.
- b) Tractor ploughing - 40 minutes to judge opening.
- c) Tractor ploughing - 3 hours to complete the plot.
- d) Vintage and horticultural ploughing - 3 hours to complete the plot.
All tractor ploughing must be finished by 1pm
- e) Horse ploughing - 4 hours to complete the plot
All horse ploughing must be finished by 2pm
- f) 15 minutes extra time for any cast-off done after the ploughing has commenced.
- g) Penalty for failing to finish plot at finishing signal - 10 points per minute or part minute.

3. OPENING

- a) Conventional and horticultural ploughing - double opening - no land shall be left unturned.
- b) Reversible ploughing - single furrow opening with right-hand bodies.
- c) In vintage ploughing on grassland only - there is no opening.

4. START

- a) Conventional ploughing - start to consist of 11 or 12 furrows.
- b) Reversible ploughing - start to consist of 8, 9 or 10 furrows.
- c) Horse ploughing - start to consist of 8, 9 or 10 furrows.
- d) Horticultural ploughing – start to consist of first 6 furrows.
- e) Competitors to cast towards the next highest number plot.

5. **FINISH**

- a) Conventional, vintage and horse ploughing - finish to consist of last 8, 9 or 10 furrows.
- b) Reversible ploughing - finish to consist of last 18, 20 or 25 furrows. Incorrect number of furrows - penalty 20 points deduction.
- c) Horticultural ploughing – finish to consist of last 6 furrows.
- d) In conventional, vintage and horse ploughing - the last furrow to be ploughed towards competitor's own start.

6. **DEPTH**

- a) Depth to be reached on completion of start and adhered to until commencing the finish.
- b) Reversible and conventional tractor ploughing - minimum depth 20 cm
- c) Classic vintage tractor ploughing - minimum depth 17 cm.
- d) Trailing and hydraulic vintage tractor ploughing - minimum depth 15 cm.
- e) Horse ploughing - minimum depth 13 cm.

7. **ONE-WAY PLOUGHING - REVERSIBLE PLOUGHS**

The competitor should make a scratch for his last 19 or 20 furrows whilst openings are being judged.

- a) After the opening split has been judged, the competitor proceeds to:
- b) Plough 8 or 9 furrows towards the lower numbered plot.
- c) Start at the next highest number and complete his 'butts'.
- d) Complete the last 19 or 20 furrows.
- e) Alternate bodies to be used at all times. Each run to be completed before the plough is turned over.
- f) The use of sighting poles at the start of the butts is not allowed.
- g) When ploughing the butts, competitors cannot travel to the end of the plot to turn.

NOTE: When ploughing the joining furrow, attachments are not allowed, but it is permissible to show one or two full furrows on the first run.

8. **VINTAGE & CLASSIC PLOUGHING**

- a) Plough bodies must be made for the plough at the time of manufacture.
- b) Skimmers and tailpieces optional.
- c) Tailpieces should not be adapted to manipulate the furrows or scratches.

9. **GENERAL**

- d) All ploughmen must start at the same end, as designated by the organising committee.
- e) The first and second runs next to the neighbour's plot will be allowed as straightening furrows and will not be judged.
- f) Rolling with the tractor wheels is not allowed. **Penalty 20 points deduction**
- g) Twin tractor wheels not allowed.
- h) Three sighting poles only (one can be placed on the headland) - assistance to set and remove is allowed. No other assistance allowed - including no assistance by signal, radio contact, mobile phone or any other method.
- i) Handling, treading or shaping of scratches or furrows is not allowed. Except in horse ploughing where scratches can be handled but not removed.
- j) Only one tractor and plough wheel mark allowed at the finish in tractor ploughing.
- k) The use of Global Positioning Technology, laser beams, or any other electronic or computerised measuring devices are not allowed.
- l) Only the competitor is allowed to clean the plot of straw, stones, etc. Clearing of stubble is not allowed and will be penalised.
- m) Any abuse or dispute by a competitor with an official or a fellow competitor is not acceptable. **Penalty 20 points deduction.**

10. **FINAL DECISION**

Any questions arising and not provided for in these rules shall be decided by the Executive Committee, whose decision shall be final and binding.

REGULATIONS

1. SAFETY POLICY

All competitors must adhere to the NADAS Policy at all times. Failure to do so - disqualification.

2. PLOUGHING ON THE SITE

- a) The plough must not be in the ground on the site other than the competitor's plot. Penalty - disqualification.
- b) When not ploughing, all mounted ploughs must be lowered to the ground.
- c) If any tractor is left unattended, the keys must be taken out and cabs locked.

3. PLOTS

- a) The competitor is allowed to clear the plot of straw, stones, etc. but must not have any help to do so.
- b) All ploughmen must start at the same end, as designated by the organising committee.

4. TRACTORS ON SITE

After completion of ploughing, all tractors must be taken directly back to the Marshalling Area and must not be driven around the site. Failure to do so will be penalised.

5. TIES

Should there be a tie for a place in any class, then the 'countback' system will be used by the scrutineers.

8. ADMISSION TO SITE

Trucks carrying equipment together with the truck driver will be admitted free of charge. Trucks and cars must be parked in the appropriate parking places.

9. INSURANCE

All competitors must hold adequate insurance including Third Party Liability Insurance.

Judges Method of Scoring

Conventional Ploughing

OPENING Well cut, uniform and straight	20
START 11 or 12 furrows uniform and straight	20
SEED BED Weed control and soil made available	20
FIRMNESS Firm well packed furrows, no holes	20
UNIFORMITY Clearly defined uniform furrows and no pairing of furrows	20
FINISH Uniform and shallow	20
INS AND OUTS Neat, accurate and regular	20
STRAIGHTNESS Straightness of the whole plot	20
GENERAL APPEARANCE Workmanship and general appearance of the whole plot	20

Reversible Ploughing

OPENING Well cut, uniform and straight	20
START (8 or 9 furrows), uniform and level	20
SEED BED Weed control and soil made available	20
FIRMNESS Firm, well packed furrows, no holes	20
UNIFORMITY Clearly defined, uniform furrows and no pairing	20
JOINING FURROW AND BUTTS Neat, accurate with no dips or mounds	20
FINISH (last 19 or 20 furrows) Uniform and shallow	20
ACCURACY OF FINAL FURROW Close to first furrow with no unploughed or Reploughed land	20
INS AND OUTS Neat, accurate and regular	20
STRAIGHTNESS Straightness of the whole plot	20
GENERAL APPEARANCE Workmanship and general appearance of the whole plot	20

DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS

General Rules

All exhibits to be delivered to the ploughing match site by 09:30 hours.

Entries to be accompanied by a list of ingredient used.

All produce to be covered in cling film.

ALL Produce will be auctioned off prior to the prize giving on the day, funds donated to the Presidents chosen charity.

The judge's decision is final.

Class 11: Sloe gin (min amount 250ml)

Class 12: Hedgerow liqueur (min amount 250ml)

Class 13: Chocolate Sandwich Cake (minimum 7 inch/20cm in diameter)

Class 14: 6 Sausage Rolls

Class 15: Jam (any flavour) (min 300g Jar)

Class 16: 1 Bakewell (minimum 7 inch/20cm in diameter)

Class 17: 8 Cheese Straws

Class 18: 6 Cheese Scones

Class 19: Children's Class: 4 Decorated Cupcakes – Farm Animal theme

Trophies and Special Awards for Ploughing Match

Lloyds Bank Cup (400a) presented to the Champion Horse Plough Team

The John Day Cup (401) presented to the winner of Class 5 Conventional Ploughing

The Oakes Brothers Cup (403) presented to the winner of Class 7 Reversible Ploughing, Society of Ploughmen rules

The Walter Wilder Cup (404) presented to the winner of Class 8 Best Novice Ploughman (13-20 years of age)

The Lister Wilder Cup (406) presented to the winner for the Best Maintained Massey Ferguson

The Gerald Fisher Agricultural Machinery Cup (409) presented to the winner of the Best Ploughing by a Woman

The P.J.S. Cup (410) presented to the Champion Vintage Ploughman

The James Puxley Cup (411) presented to the Champion Novice Ploughman

The James & Cowper Cup (412) presented to the Reserve Champion Ploughman

The Mr & Mrs C Povey Cup (413) presented to the Champion Ploughman

The Spencer Challenge Cup (408) presented to the winner of the Best Trade Stand

Trophies and Special Awards for Domestic Classes

Best Beverage (415)

Vivienne Dann Cup (414) presented to overall winner of Home Produce

Ploughing Match President: Mr C Hartwright

Ploughing Match Committee 2025

Ploughing Match Chairman: Mr Julian Plank

Mr I Raisey (Vice Chairman)

Mr M Bowden

Mrs M Bowden

Mr I Wilson

Mrs J Marcham

Mr S Hiscock

Mr C Hartwright

Mr C Collins

Mr C Smith

Mrs G Smith

Mr D Willis

Mrs K Thomas

Mr L Robison

Mr C Cox

Mr M Denton

Mrs L Harris

The Society and Landowner accept no responsibility for loss of, or damage to, property on the day. Cars parked at owner's risk.

Health & Safety

All entrants are reminded that current health and safety rules require that a suitable assessment of the risks to the health and safety of all persons is made by the operator of any undertaking. This means that entrants should have considered this, especially in relation to spectators and officials who may not be as familiar with ploughing techniques and tractor usage.